WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of molding a glass product by pressing a glass gob by the use of a mold comprising an upper die and a lower die, each of said upper and said lower dies having a molding surface, said method comprising:

a supplying step of supplying as said glass gob a molten glass onto the molding surface of said lower die;

a cooling step of cooling an upper surface of said glass gob supplied onto the molding surface of said lower die;

a heat radiation suppressing step of suppressing, after said cooling step, heat radiation from said glass gob so that an inner part and an upper part of said glass gob are close in temperature to each other; and

a pressing step of pressing, after said heat radiation suppressing step, said glass gob by the molding surfaces of said upper and said lower dies when said glass gob has a viscosity within a range between $10^{3.5}$ and $10^{6.5}$ poises (dPa·s).

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said heat radiation suppressing step comprises an approaching step of making a heat shielding member lower in temperature than the inner part of said glass gob approach the upper part of said glass gob in a non-contact state.

3. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said approaching step is for making said heat shielding member approach the upper part of said glass gob in the non-contact state for a time interval between 3 and 50 seconds, both inclusive.

4. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said heat shielding member has an emissivity of 0.4 or less at least at its surface facing the upper surface of said glass gob.

5. A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said approaching step is for making said heat shielding member approach the upper part of said glass gob in the non-contact state for a time interval between 3 and 50 seconds, both inclusive.

6. A method of producing a final glass product from a glass product molded by pressing a glass gob, said method comprising the steps of:

molding said glass product by the use of a method claimed in any one of claims 1 through 5; and

grinding and polishing a product surface of said glass product to produce said final glass product.

7. An apparatus for molding a glass product, comprising:

a mold comprising an upper die and a lower die, each of said upper and said lower dies having a molding surface;

supplying means for supplying a molten glass as a glass gob onto the molding surface of said lower die;

cooling means for cooling an upper surface of said glass gob supplied onto the molding surface of said lower die;

heat radiation suppressing means for suppressing heat radiation from the glass gob cooled by said cooling means so that an inner part and an upper part of said glass gob are close in temperature to each other; and

mold driving means for making the molding surfaces of said upper and said lower dies approach each other to press said glass gob, said mold driving means being activated to press said glass gob when said glass gob whose inner part and the upper surface are made to close in temperature to each other by said heat radiation suppressing means has a viscosity within a range between $10^{3.5}$ and $10^{6.5}$ poises (dPa·s).

8. An apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein said heat radiation suppressing means comprises:

a heat shielding member lower in temperature than the inner part of said glass gob; and

means for making said heat shielding member approach the upper part of said glass gob in a non-contact state.

9. An apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein said heat shielding member has an emissivity of 0.4 or less at least at its surface facing the upper surface of said glass gob.

10. An apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein said heat shielding member comprises a heat insulator material coated with a coating layer having an emissivity of 0.4 or less at least at its surface facing the upper surface of said glass gob.